

For Teachers



When you visit the Page, stop by historic Pit 3 to see Old Faithful, the bubbliest seep in Hancock Park. These bubbles are caused by bacteria that are able to live inside the seeps, an environment with no water or oxygen.

In addition to making pretty, photogenic bubbles, bacteria also cause the distinctive “rotten egg” smell of the pits.

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Spring is in the Air

Dear Teachers,

I hope your holidays brought you rest and relaxation! Here at the Page, we're excited to dive into 2014 by offering a few new opportunities to you and your students, as well as bring back an old favorite.

Ice Age Encounters is coming back for Spring! Our popular puppet show perfect for grades two through six will be back every Wednesday between March 5th and May 28th. If you haven't seen it, this isn't your parents' puppet show - our life sized saber toothed cat puppet is unlike anything you've ever seen!

This spring, you and your students can also experience first hand what it was like to be trapped in asphalt as a huge Columbian mammoth or one of a dire wolf pack. In our “Entrapment Game” students will learn how all of these fossils were trapped tens of thousands of years ago. Facilitated by our staff and volunteers, this program doesn't need reservations and happens right in our museum exhibits! Keep reading for more opportunities including an Ice Age lecture for you and new curriculum for your students.

Molly Porter

Manager, School and Teacher Programs

What's New!

Happy 2014, teachers! This year, our resolution is to give you and your students the best, most exciting experiences possible when you visit the Page Museum. Many of you have already taken advantage of our fall programs, so thank you for giving us the chance to work with your fabulous students! As we wrap up the fall programming season and look ahead to spring, we're working on all the ways we can help you make the most of a self-guided visit.

We have added brand new, grade-specific lesson plans to our website! Download them before your trip and give your students a new way to connect classroom curriculum to their Museum visit. You can find these resources (and more!) at www.tarpits.org/for-teachers/resources.

As you explore the Museum with your students, you'll also notice staff and volunteers stationed at exhibits with fossil casts and artifacts. As always, we are eager to talk to your students, and answer all their questions! Just look for blue shirts or an *Ask Me* badge to learn everything you want to know about the tar pits and the animals that once roamed La Brea.

We can't wait to see you and your students in the spring!

Kelsey Ziff

Coordinator, School Programs



Can You Dig It: Volunteers!

Here at the Page Museum, we are lucky enough to have an amazing team of volunteer educators who work with our visiting school groups. Volunteers at the Page attend trainings and receive certification in informal interpretation, as well as our guided school programs. During your visit, you'll see volunteers stationed throughout the Museum, ready to engage your students, show them some fossil casts, or help with scavenger hunts and lesson plans. Jackie Thevenot, who has logged more than 1,200 hours volunteering, is especially enthusiastic about working with school visitors. She says, "I love creating a supportive environment in which all students can debate and work together to find a solution to a scientific question."



Hey, teachers!

Did you know that you can start volunteering at the Page Museum once you're 16 years old? If you or your students would like to join our team, check out <http://www.tarpits.org/join-us/volunteer> for more information and to download your application!

Upcoming Opportunities

Earth Science Make and Take*

Saturday, February 22, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Review Earth Science concepts with our own Museum geologist Alyssa Morgan, and work with her to assemble 3-D models and visual aids demonstrating key concepts to take back to the classroom! Email info@nhm.org to register. One name per e-mail please.

**Hosted at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County*

Pleistocene 101 at the Page Museum

Saturday, March 8, 9:00am - 12:00pm

Spend a morning with us and get an introduction to Los Angeles' ancient history. Discover how fossil evidence from Rancho La Brea can teach us about biodiversity, climate, and geologic change in southern California. Email schoolprograms@tarpits.org to register.

Rainy Days

We know it's hard to think ahead to rainy days in the midst of a winter heat wave, but we like to be prepared! If it does rain during your visit, we have you all taken care of with designated lunch areas and indoor check-in.

If you're brave enough to head outside, remember that our excavators work rain or shine, so you can still visit them at Project 23!

Fan Mail!

This mural of a day in Pleistocene Rancho la Brea, complete with asphalt seeps, mountains, and a diversity of (labeled) flora and fauna, is a collaboration by a whole class of second graders. We love receiving your students' reflections on their trips to the Tar Pits, so keep 'em coming!



Submit your visit request!

Go to www.tarpits.org/for-teachers and click on the Plan Your Trip link for step-by-step instructions on how to plan your day and submit a visit request!